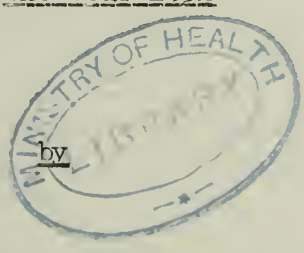
BURGESS HILL URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

A N N U A L R E P O R T

of the

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

For the Year 1951



by

WILLIAM B. STOTT

L.R.C.P. & S. (Edin)., D.P.H., (Camb.).

URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL OF BURGESS HILL

R E P O R T

of

THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

To the Chairman and Members of the Burgess Hill Urban District Council.

I have the honour to submit my Annual Report for the year 1951.

The Crude Death Rate is 14.51 and this figure when adjusted gives a Corrected Death Rate of 10.88 which compares with 12.5 for England and Wales.

The Infant Mortality Rate is 26.55 as compared with 29.6 for the country as a whole and with 20.83 for 1950.

The Death Rate for tuberculosis is 0.23 as compared with 0.31 for England and Wales.

No deaths occurred during the year from Diphtheria, Scarlet Fever, Whooping Cough, Measles or Typhoid Fever.

DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION.

Since July, 1948, the County Council has been responsible for the administration of this scheme and the County Medical Officer of Health has delegated the duties in connection with local arrangements to your Medical Officer of Health.

For the seventh consecutive year no case of diphtheria has occurred in this district, and in fact only six children have contracted diphtheria during the past eleven years.

On page 7 will be found details of the immunisation position in the district, and it will be seen that the percentage of immunised children from 0 - 15 years of age at the end of the year was 93 and that if children under nine months were excluded, and immunisation does not commence until the ninth month, the percentage was 97.

For some years, in conjunction with Dr. G. Bousfield, of the Public Health Laboratory, Camberwell, we have carried out a series of Field Trials on new antigens for immunising infants.

In 1944 we began a scheme for testing and immunising expectant mothers in order to find out if immunity is passed on to the child, and if so whether such immunity would last for the first twelve months of its life. The number of tested infants, though small, was sufficient to show that the majority of children do not inherit sufficient immunity from their mothers, showing the advisability of immunising babies as early as the eighth or ninth month.

In 1947 we began an investigation using a new antigen known as P.T.A.P. and in a series of trials six different batches gave practically identical Schick Conversion Rates of 96 per cent proving its antigenic uniformity.

It was hoped that with P.T.A.P. only one instead of the customary two injections need be given, and in 1948 we carried out another investigation, Schick testing children one month after the initial dose had been given. Until the properties of P.T.A.P. had been thoroughly tested we felt it would not be wise to rely on this single injection, so gave a second one when this Schick test was read even when this proved to be negative. Acting as controls, a similar number of children were injected with A.P.T., using the same technique. Over 200 children were tested, but the two antigens showed a very similar Schick Conversion Rate. The percentage negative after only one dose of P.T.A.P. was not high enough to warrant the use of only one injection.

For the past year we have been comparing the properties of two Purified Formol Toxoids. These are injected subcutaneously, and cause practically no discomfort, leave no 'lump', and seldom cause any reaction. This investigation is not yet concluded, but the results so far show an extremely high Schick Conversion Rate. The Formol Toxoids are used for primary injections only; for the reinforcing dose which is given to children at the age of five years we use one dose of 0.3cc A.P.T., or, if the patient is over eight years of age T.A.F., as causing less likelihood of reaction.

There is no increase in the number of parents who actively refuse immunisation of their children, but in some cases we are faced with indifference to the need of early protection.

All the testing and test reading throughout the area has been carried out by Dr. H. L. Duke, Deputy Medical Officer of Health. It is mainly due to his efforts and those of Miss F. M. Dean, Immunisation Clerk, that the scheme runs so smoothly and efficiently.

UNDULANT FEVER

When samples of milk are sent to the laboratory for a biological test the Medical Director has been examining the killed guinea pigs for the presence of Brucella abortus and it has been the custom, as an economy measure, to inject a guinea pig with two milks. One positive report was received and in this instance fortunately both milks were from the same farm. An investigation at the farm revealed that approximately half the milk was sent for pasteurisation the other half being retailed raw. In order to ascertain which cows were at fault the Sanitary Inspector took quarter samples from each cow in the herd and sent them to the laboratory. Brucella abortus was isolated from a number of cows and this milk was added to the supply for pasteurisation.

The laboratory has recently been subjecting biological milks, as a matter of routine, to the Brucella Ring Test — an agglutination test — and a number of positive results have been received. The Medical Director states that approximately 60 per cent of all biological milks examined by him are positive to this test.

A Medical Officer of Health has power under Section 20 of the Milk and Dairies Regulations, 1949 to enforce pasteurisation of a milk supply which he knows or suspects to be causing infection. The question arises as to whether a Medical Officer of Health is justified in demanding pasteurisation when he receives a report that Brucella abortus has been isolated from a guinea pig. In the first place he does not know unless the Ring Test is positive from one farm and negative from the other which farm is at fault. Secondly he knows that although the milk was infectious seven weeks ago — when the milk was injected into the guinea pig -- it may not be so when the report is received as the offending cow may have gone dry in the meantime or it may have ceased excreting Brucella. It should also be remembered that the Divisional Veterinary Officer has no power to order the elimination from the herd of cows excreting Brucella abortus, as distinct from Brucella melitensis, even if he were successful in finding the offending cows. Another factor to be borne in mind is that undulant fever is a relatively minor infection and not a killing or crippling disease. If an order for pasteurisation of the milk supply were made it would have to remain on indefinitely as it would not be known when the infection had ceased and the farmer could claim compensation for the expense involved from the Local Authority.

The action I have been taking on receipt of a positive report is to inform the milk retailer accordingly and to advise him that it would be in his and in his customers interest for the milk to be pasteurised.

Farmers throughout the country are having their herds vaccinated against Brucella but as it will take some years before the organism is eliminated the public should know that there is a risk, small though it may be, in consuming raw milk and that the way to avoid infection is to consume pasteurised milk or to bring all raw milk to the boil.

MILK SUPPLY.

A considerable amount of time is given to the supervision of the milk supply. Frequent inspections of dairies and regular sampling of milk are carried out, samples being taken for the methylene blue, the biological and phosphatase tests.

When a positive report is received from the laboratory, on a milk subjected to the biological test, the Divisional Veterinary Officer, Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries is informed and he at once arranges for a veterinary examination of the herd. In 1951 two positive reports were received and the offending cow was found in each instance and slaughtered under the Tuberculosis Order. Subjecting milk to the biological test is not, of course, the answer to the problem of tubercle bacilli in milk as the provision of tuberculin tested herds and the pasteurisation of all other milk is the only proper safeguard.

FOOD HYGIENE.

No case of food poisoning was notified during the year but this does not mean, of course, that no one in the district had an attack. Small outbreaks, limited to one or more members of a family, occur from time to time and are not always brought to the notice of the Public Health Department.

The Catering Trade Working Party published their report during the year and among the practices which they condemn as contributing to outbreaks of food poisoning are the following:-

1. Absence of supervision and control over possibly infectious conditions amongst the staff.

2. The slow cooling of heated meat foods.

3. Neglect of personal cleanliness, especially of washing the hands after use of the sanitary convenience.

4. The preparation of food the day before consumption and failure to store it at sufficiently low temperatures.

5. Failure to protect food from vermin.

6. Unnecessary handling of food.

7. Failure to cover food on display.

An endeavour is made to bring home these points to the management and staff on visits to catering establishments and food shops.

MASS RADIOGRAPHY SURVEY.

By arrangement with Dr. B. G. Rigden, Medical Director, East Sussex Mass Radiography Unit, a Survey was carried out in Haywards Heath in the spring of 1951. Examination was open to anyone living in this district and posters and leaflets, giving particulars of the times for attendance, were distributed throughout the town.

A total of 1,370 people attended but it is not known how many of these resided in this Urban District. Six males and seven females were found to have tuberculous lesions requiring no action and three males and one female had newly discovered lesions. This Survey served a useful purpose as it not only brought to light a number of cases of pulmonary tuberculosis at a very early stage of the disease, but it had a health education value by drawing the attention of the public to the facilities for the diagnosis of pulmonary tuberculosis.

WATER SUPPLY.

(1) The water supply of the district, provided by the Burgess Hill Water Company, has continued to be satisfactory in quality. There has again been no shortage of water during the summer months.

(2) The Company carries out monthly bacteriological examination of the raw water and all were satisfactory. The water was chlorinated.

(3) The supply is not liable to plumbo-solvent action.

(4) There was no evidence of the supply being contaminated.

(5) With the exception of three houses, all are provided with a piped supply direct to the house.

BATHING POOL, ST. JOHN'S PARK.

This pool was opened in June, 1935 and during all the time it has been in use I have never known a single case of infectious disease to be attributed to bathing in the pool.

The reason for this excellent record is because the water in the pool is efficiently treated so that at all times it is of a high degree of bacterial purity.

This is achieved by a process which comprises the filtration of the water through sand filters. The efficiency of the filters is increased by adding sulphate of alumina which has the effect of coagulating the salts in the water and forming a film on the top of the filters. Following filtration the water is aerated by pumping it to the top of a cascade from which it falls over tiers. Sterilisation of the water is achieved by the addition of gaseous chlorine prior to its entry at the shallow end of the pool. The discharge of chlorine is regulated to allow an amount of free chlorine to be always present in the water so that any bacteria which gain access from the bathers are killed. Frequent tests of the water are taken to ensure that the correct amount of chlorine is present and bacteriological tests show that the water is up to the standard of a good drinking water.

Swimming is a very healthy form of exercise and the exposure of the body to the suns rays which goes with it in an open air pool is also health giving. For this reason and also from the point of view of self-preservation every child should learn to swim at an early age and the Council is to be commended for having provided the necessary facilities.

My thanks are due to Mr. J. W. Hobson, Sanitary Inspector, for his help and co-operation and for the particulars supplied for this report.

I should like to take this opportunity of expressing my appreciation of the consideration, support and assistance I have received from the Chairman and Members of the Public Health Committee.

I have the honour to be, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

W.B.STOTT.

Medical Officer of Health.

PUBLIC HEALTH STAFF.

Medical Officer of Health:	William B. Stott, L.R.C.P. & S. (Edin)., D.P.H. (Camb).
Deputy Medical Officer of Health:	H. L. Duke, O.B.E., M.D., Sc.D. (Camb)., D.T.M. & Hy.
Sanitary Inspector:	J. W. Hobson, M.S.I.A. Certified Meat Inspector.
Clerks to the M.O.H.:	Miss G. L. Everson. Miss G. J. Shuttlewood.
Clerk to the S.I	Miss J. Hardcastle.

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA.

Summary of Statistics for the years:

	1949	1950	1951
Area of District in Acres	2,024	2,024	2,024
Population estimated to middle of year ..	8,090	8,224	8,685
Rateable Value	£67,852	£68,374	£69,437
Sum represented by a Penny Rate	£260	£271	£272
Density of Population (persons per acre) ..	3.99	4.06	4.29
Number of Houses	2,539	2,546	2,570
Birth Rate per 1,000 population	15.33	17.51	13.01
Death Rate per 1,000 population	12.98	12.77	14.51
Infant Mortality Rate	24.19	20.83	26.55

CAUSES OF DEATH IN BURGESS HILL URBAN DISTRICT.

	Males.	Females
1. Tuberculosis, respiratory	-	1
2. Tuberculosis, other	-	1
3. Syphilitic disease	2	-
4. Diphtheria	-	-
5. Whooping Cough	-	-
6. Meningococcal infections	-	-
7. Acute poliomyelitis	-	-
8. Measles	-	-
9. Other infective and parasitic diseases	-	-
10. Malignant neoplasm, stomach	3	2
11. Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus	2	-
12. Malignant neoplasm, breast	-	4
13. Malignant neoplasm, uterus	-	2
14. Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	3	9
15. Leukaemia, aleukaemia	-	-
16. Diabetes	1	-
17. Vascular lesions of nervous system	4	12
18. Coronary disease, angina	9	5
19. Hypertension with heart disease	1	1
20. Other heart disease	10	23
21. Other circulatory disease	3	2
22. Influenza	1	-
23. Pneumonia	1	1
24. Bronchitis	4	6
25. Other diseases of respiratory system	1	-
26. Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	-	1
27. Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	2	-
28. Nephritis and nephrosis	2	-
29. Hyperplasia of prostate	2	-
30. Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion	-	-
31. Congenital malformations	-	-
32. Other defined and ill-defined diseases	3	1
33. Motor vehicle accidents	-	-
34. All other accidents	-	-
35. Suicide	-	1
36. Homicide and operations of war	-	-
Totals:	54	72

BIRTH RATE, CIVILIAN DEATH RATE AND ANNUAL ANALYSIS OF MORTALITY

During the Year 1951 (Provisional Figures)

	Rate Per 1,000 Civilian Population		Annual Death Rate per 1,000 Civilian Population									Rate Per 1,000 Live Births	
	Live Births	Still Births	All Causes	Typhoid and Paratyphoid Fevers	Whooping Cough	Diphtheria	Tuberculosis	Influenza	Smallpox	Acute Poliomyelitis (including Polio-encephalitis)	Pneumonia	Diarrhoea and Enteritis (Under 2 yrs)	Total Deaths under 1 year
England and Wales	15.5	0.36	12.5	0.00	0.01	0.00	0.31	0.38	0.00	0.00	0.61	1.4	29.6
126 County Boroughs and Great Towns (including London)	17.3	0.45	13.4	0.00	0.01	0.00	0.37	0.36	0.00	0.01	0.65	1.6	33.9
148 Smaller Towns (Resident Population 25,000 to 50,000 at 1931 Census)	16.7	0.38	12.5	0.00	0.01	0.00	0.31	0.38	0.00	0.01	0.63	1.0	27.6
London	17.8	0.37	13.1	-	0.01	0.00	0.38	0.23	-	0.00	0.61	0.7	27.6
Burgess Hill Urban	13.01 *13.53	0.23	14.51 *10.88	-	-	-	0.23	0.12	-	-	0.23	17.7	26.55

* Corrected death rate; Corrected birth rate.

	Puerperal Sepsis	Others	Total
The Maternal Mortality Rates for England and Wales are as follows: Per 1,000 Total Births	0.10	0.18	0.28
The Maternal Mortality Rates for Burgess Hill Urban District are as follows:	Nil	Nil	Nil

BIRTHS AND DEATHS

Births and Birth Rate:

The following table shows the Births registered for the year 1951:-

	Male	Female	Total
Legitimate	58	50	108
Illegitimate	2	3	5
Totals	60	53	113

This gives a rate of 13.01 per 1,000 population.

	Male	Female	Total
Total Stillbirths	-	2	2
Legitimate	-	2	2
Illegitimate	-	-	-

Deaths and Death Rate:

The following table shows the Deaths registered for the year 1951:-

Male	Female	Total
54	72	126

This gives a mortality rate of 14.51 per 1,000 population.
The corrected death rate is 10.88.

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES IN THE AREA

Laboratory Facilities:

All milk and water samples, infectious disease and food poisoning specimens are sent to the Public Health Laboratory, Brighton and I wish to take this opportunity of thanking Dr. J. E. Jameson, Medical Director, for his informative reports and for his valuable help and advice on many occasions.

Ambulance Facilities:

Cases of infectious diseases are now removed by one of the two British Red Cross Society's ambulances stationed at Lavender's Garage, Sussex Road, Haywards Heath.

Hospital Accommodation for Infectious Diseases.

Twenty-six beds are available at the Mid-Sussex Isolation Hospital for the treatment of cases of infectious disease, twelve of these beds are in a cubicle block and the other fourteen in a block consisting of two main wards and side wards.

A table on page 10 gives particulars of admissions during the year.

Smallpox:

The South-East Metropolitan Regional Hospital Board state that cases of smallpox occurring in this district should be sent to the River Hospitals, (Long Reach), Dartford, Kent.

DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION
0 - 15 Years of Age

Number on Roll .. .. 2,185 Percentage 93
Number Immunised .. 2,035 Percentage excluding children under nine months 97

The table below shows the immunisation figures for every school in the district:-

	On Roll	Immunised	Percentage
Schools: Primary and County Secondary			
Burgess Hill County Secondary	403	394	98
Junction Road	383	376	98
London Road	229	226	99
	1,015	996	98
Not yet at School, or at school outside our area	152	147	97
Schools, Private	310	306	99
	1,477	1,449	98

During the year:-

117 children were immunised.
518 children were Schick tested.
359 children had a reinforcing injection.

VACCINATION.

49 children were vaccinated under the age of one year — a percentage of 43. In addition 1,100 persons were vaccinated and 2,937 were revaccinated.

CLINICS AND TREATMENT CENTRES

Infant Welfare Centre:

Burgess Hill	E.S.C.C. Clinic, Mill Road, Burgess Hill.	1st and 3rd Thursday Dr. on 1st Thursday

Clinics:

Diphtheria Immunisation ..	E.S.C.C. Clinic, Mill Road, Burgess Hill.	1st Friday 2 - 3.30 p.m.
Tuberculosis	E.S.C.C. Clinic, Oaklands, Haywards Heath.	Every Thursday except 2nd Thursday
Orthopaedic	E.S.C.C. Clinic, Mill Road, Burgess Hill.	Tuesday 2 - 5 p.m. Friday 9 a.m. - 5 p.m. Dr. attends 4th Wednesday at 10.30 a.m. (By appointment)
Speech Therapy ..	E.S.C.C. Clinic, Mill Road, Burgess Hill.	Wednesday 2 p.m. (By appointment)
Child Guidance ..	East Grinstead: Moat Road	Every Friday 10 a.m. (By appointment)
	Lewes: Scouts Building, St. John Street, Lewes.	Every Wednesday 10 a.m. (By appointment)
	Hove: 33 Clarendon Villas, Hove 3.	Tuesday 10 a.m. Thursday 2 p.m.
Minor Ailments ..	E.S.C.C. Clinic, Mill Road, Burgess Hill.	Weekdays (Mondays to Fridays) 9 - 10 a.m.
Dental	E.S.C.C. Clinic, Mill Road, Burgess Hill.	By appointment.
School Clinic ..	E.S.C.C. Clinic, Mill Road, Burgess Hill.	1st Thursday 10 a.m. Dr. Douglas.
Family Planning ..	E.S.C.C. Clinic, Oaklands, Haywards Heath.	2nd and 4th Wednesday 2 p.m. Dr. each session. (By appointment)
Sub-Fertility ..	E.S.C.C. Clinic, Oaklands, Haywards Heath.	1st Wednesday 2 p.m. Dr. each session. (By appointment)
Venereal Diseases ..	Facilities available at Royal Sussex County Hospital, Brighton:-	
	Men: .. Monday ..	.. 4.30 p.m.
	Wednesday	.. 9.30 a.m.
	Thursday	.. 1.30 p.m.
	Women and Children: Tuesday ..	.. 1.30 p.m.
	Thursday	.. 10 a.m.
	Saturday	.. 9.30 a.m.
	New cases must attend at least one hour before the Clinic closes.	

CASES OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE IN AGE GROUPS

Disease	Total Cases Notified	Under 1 year	1 - 2	2 - 3	3 - 4	4 - 5	5 - 10	10 - 15	15 - 20	20 - 35	35 - 45	45 - 65	65 and over	Cases admitted to Hospital	Total Deaths
Poliomyelitis	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	2	1
Scarlet Fever	5	-	-	-	-	3	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Erysipelas	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-
Paratyphoid	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	1	-
Pneumonia	3	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	1	-	-	1	-	1
Sonne Dysentery ..	19	-	1	-	1	2	8	6	1	-	-	-	-	1	-
Measles	194	1	12	20	21	23	109	3	2	2	1	-	-	1	-
Whooping Cough	155	6	14	14	19	30	68	2	-	1	1	-	-	-	-
Totals ..	380	7	27	34	41	58	188	11	4	6	3	-	1	5	2

TUBERCULOSIS - NEW CASES AND MORTALITY, 1951

Age Periods	New Cases				Deaths			
	Respiratory		Non-Respiratory		Respiratory		Non-Respiratory	
	Males	Females	Males	Females	Males	Females	Males	Females
0 - 1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
1 - 5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
5 - 15	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
15 - 25	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
25 - 35	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
35 - 45	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-
45 - 55	1	-	-	-	-	1	-	-
55 - 65	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-
65 and over	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Totals:	4	2	-	1	-	1	-	1

INFECTIOUS DISEASE.
Notification Rates per 1,000 of the Population.

Notifications	England and Wales	Burgess Hill Urban
Typhoid Fever	0.00	-
Paratyphoid Fever	0.02	0.12
Meningococcal Infection	0.03	-
Scarlet Fever	1.11	0.58
Whooping Cough	3.87	17.85
Diphtheria	0.02	-
Erysipelas	0.14	0.12
Smallpox	0.00	-
Measles	14.07	22.34
Pneumonia	0.99	0.34
Acute Poliomyelitis (including Polioencephalitis)		
Paralytic	0.03	0.23
Non-paralytic	0.02	-
Food Poisoning	0.13	-

THE MID-SUSSEX ISOLATION HOSPITAL

I am indebted to the Matron, Miss J. M. Reid, for the following particulars of cases admitted during th year.

Disease	Cuckfield Rural District	Cuckfield Urban District	Burgess Hill Urban District	East Grinstead Urban District	Uckfield Rural District	Other Districts	Total
Poliomyelitis	-	2	2	1	-	1	6
Observation Poliomyelitis	1	-	-	-	1	2	4
Poliomyelitis Contacts	-	-	2	-	-	-	2
Scarlet Fever	12	-	-	7	4	5	28
Observation Scarlet Fever	1	-	-	-	1	-	2
Paratyphoid	-	-	-	-	1	-	1
Observation Diphtheria	1	-	-	-	-	-	1
Measles	5	2	1	1	1	3	13
Measles and Otitis Media	-	-	1	1	-	-	2
Measles and Double Otitis Media	-	-	-	1	-	-	1
Measles and Miliary Tuberculosis	-	-	-	-	-	1	1
Measles and Pneumonia	-	-	-	1	1	2	4
Measles and Whooping Cough	-	-	-	-	-	1	1
Measles and Nephritis	-	-	-	-	-	1	1
Measles and Encephalitis	-	-	-	-	1	-	1
Measles Contact and Pneumonia	1	-	-	-	-	-	1
Measles Contact	-	1	-	-	-	-	1
Rubella	-	-	-	3	2	-	5
Whooping Cough	1	-	-	-	1	1	3
Whooping Cough and Pneumonia	4	-	-	-	2	1	7
Whooping Cough, Pneumonia and Pyrexia	-	1	-	-	-	-	1
Whooping Cough and Epilepsy	-	-	-	1	-	-	1
Observation Whooping Cough, Bronchitis and Otorrhea	-	-	-	-	1	-	1
Sonne Dysentery	-	-	2	-	-	13	15
Gastro-enteritis	-	1	-	-	-	-	1
Observation Gastro-enteritis	-	-	1	-	-	-	1
Infective Jaundice	-	-	1	-	-	-	1
Erysipelas	2	1	-	-	1	1	5
Chickenpox	-	-	-	5	1	1	7
Observation Chickenpox	1	-	-	1	-	-	2
Observation Chickenpox and Abscess on Forehead	-	-	-	-	-	1	1
Mumps	-	-	-	1	1	1	3
Mumps and Epilepsy	1	-	-	-	-	-	1
Mumps and Orchitis	-	-	-	-	-	1	1
Streptococcal Throat	-	-	-	-	-	1	1
Vincents Angina	1	-	-	-	-	-	1
Tonsillitis	1	1	-	-	-	1	3
Observation Meningitis	3	1	-	-	-	-	4
Observation Tuberculous Meningitis	-	-	-	1	-	-	1
Pneumonia	1	-	-	-	-	-	1
Leukaemia	1	-	-	-	-	-	1
Phlebitis	-	-	1	-	-	-	1
Tuberculosis (Pulmonary)	2	2	-	-	1	25	30
Observation Tuberculosis	1	-	-	-	-	-	1
Acute Peritonitis	1	-	-	-	-	-	1
Croup	-	1	-	-	-	-	1
Totals:	41	13	11	24	20	63	172

The Cubicle Block allowed forty-six different diseases, observation cases or diseases with complications to be dealt with.

SANITARY SUPERVISION OF THE AREA

Mr. Hobson, Sanitary Inspector, has furnished the following report on the sanitary supervision of the district.

Summary of Inspections

HOUSING:	Under Housing Acts	3	
	Under Public Health Acts	301	
	Re-visits	506	
	Rehousing visits	265	1075
PUBLIC HEALTH ACTS:	Infectious Disease	121	
	Premises Disinfected	6	
	Infestations dealt with	34	
	Movable dwellings	37	
	Smoke Inspections	2	
	Watercourses	4	204
FOOD PREMISES:	Bakehouses	29	
	Slaughterhouses	16	
	Ice-cream	16	
	Catering Establishments	16	
	Foodshops	73	
	Dairies	13	163
TRADE PREMISES:	Factories — Mechanical Power	7	
	Factories — Non Mechanical	6	
	Petroleum Acts	17	
	Rag Flock Act	4	34
MISCELLANEOUS:	Rats and Mice (made by Rodent Operator)	3287	
	Swimming Pool	5	
	Burial Arrangements	6	
	Unclassified	40	3338
	Total visits		4814
SAMPLES TAKEN:	Drinking Water (Mains) Chemical and Bacteriological	4	
	Swimming Pool — Bacteriological	1	
	Swimming Pool (tested on spot)	5	
	Ice-cream -- Bacteriological	18	
	Milk — Bacteriological, Biological and Phosphatase	97	
	Individual quarter samples for tracing Brucella abortus	68	193

COMPLAINTS

During the year 152 complaints were received (not including reports of rats and mice). The complaints concerned:-

Housing Defects	55
Drainage	53
Infestations (various)	14
Miscellaneous	30

NOTICES

Number of notices outstanding at end of 1950	220	
Number of notices served during 1951:-		
(a) Preliminary	65	
(b) Statutory	3	
(c) Verbal	41	329
Number of notices complied with during 1951		297
Number of notices outstanding at end of 1951		32

SUMMARY OF WORK CARRIED OUT DURING THE YEAR

1. No. of dwelling houses at which structural repairs were carried out	75
2. No. of dwelling houses at which cleansing and redecoration were carried out	4
3. No. of premises at which accumulations and obstructions were removed	6
4. No. of dwelling houses at which renewals, repair or extension of drainage systems were carried out	31
5. No. of dwelling houses at which obstructed drainage systems were cleared	79
6. No. of dwelling houses at which drainage system was connected to main sewer and cesspools abolished	10
7. No. of dwelling houses at which new dustbins were supplied	16
8. No. of dwelling houses at which flooding was dealt with	6
9. No. of W.C.s repaired, renewed, or additionally provided	25
10. No. of W.Cs to which fixed wooden seats were abolished	10
11. No. of drains tested	76
12. No. of cesspools emptied	84
13. No. of bakehouses and other food preparing premises to which improvements were carried out	2
14. No. of factories, offices and shops to which improvements were carried out	7
15. Public buildings at which improved sanitary accommodation was provided	1

SEWAGE DISPOSAL AND DRAINAGE.

The Sewage Disposal Works continue to function satisfactorily, although it is evident that the works are loaded to full capacity. Very careful operation is required in order to maintain a satisfactory effluent during times of heavy flow. Preparatory work is progressing for planning an enlargement of the works, and for supplementing or replacing a considerable length of the main outfall sewer which is old and insufficient in capacity.

Further properties have been connected to the new sewer in Folders Lane and at the present time there are very few properties left unconnected. These, for the most part are situated rather a long distance from the sewer.

CESSPOOL EMPTYING SCHEME

The scheme put into operation the previous year has continued to work smoothly and many regular orders have been received for periodical cesspool emptying. During the year 84 cesspool emptyings were carried out.

RATS AND MICE.

The Council employs a full-time operator to deal with rats and mice destruction. A free service is provided for the treatment of infestations in private dwelling houses and work is carried out at cost price in the case of business premises. A continual house-to-house survey is carried out and the fourth of such surveys is still in progress over the whole district.

The Council's refuse tip has received regular attention and has remained free from serious infestation. Three treatments have been carried out during the year.

The annual test-baiting of the whole system of sewers was carried out and a slight infestation was found. This was subsequently treated by poisoning.

During the year 178 complaints were received and 3,287 visits were made to 1,304 separate premises; 148 infestations of rats and 92 of mice were found and dealt with, the estimated kill being 921 rats and 1,710 mice. Actual bodies found were 373 rats and 177 mice. The operator Mr.S.W.Cook, continues to serve the Council in a conscientious way in this section of the Departments work.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF MILK AND FOOD SUPPLIES

RETAIL DAIRIES.	Number of distributors	6
	Number of retail dairies on register	6
	Number of inspections	13
LICENCES GRANTED UNDER MILK (SPECIAL DESIGNATIONS) REGULATIONS, 1949.		
	Tuberculin Tested (Dealers)	5
	Tuberculin Tested (Supplementary)	1
	Pasteurised (Dealers)	5
	Pasteurised (Supplementary)	1
SAMPLING.	(a) Bacteriological Examination:	
	Number of samples taken	79
	Number satisfactory	64
	Number unsatisfactory	15
	(b) Biological Test for T.B.:	
	Number of samples taken	27
	Number satisfactory	21
	Number containing tubercle bacilli ..	2
	Number containing Brucella abortus ..	4
	Number of individual quarter samples taken for detection of Brucella abortus	132
ICE-CREAM.	Number of Manufacturers	1
	Number of Retailers	30
	Bacteriological Examination:	
	Number of samples taken	18
	Number satisfactory	14
	Number unsatisfactory	4

MEAT AND FOOD INSPECTION.

Meat:

One slaughterhouse only is licensed, and is used for the occasional slaughter of pigs under Ministry of Food Licences.

Twenty-nine pigs and three calves were slaughtered during the year.

FOOD.

Sixty-five visits were made to various premises for the purpose of food inspection, and the following list shows the amount of foods of various kinds comdemned:-

	lbs.
Tinned Ham	37
" Meat	38
" Chicken	4
" Fish	15
" Vegetables	20
" Soups	69
" Spaghetti	16
" Milk	22
" Fruit	52
" Miscellaneous foods	82
Pickles and sauces	233
Preserves etc.	94
Sugar	4
Cocoa, coffee, tea etc.	53
Cereals, flour etc.	329
Bread, cakes etc.	23
Currants	50
Bacon	60
Sausages	10
Fish	42
Poultry	20
Cheese	3
Butter	1
Baking Powder	49
Salt	100
	1426 lbs.

TOTAL = 12 cwts. 2 qrs. 26 lbs.

Bottled cordials, essences, fruits etc. — 497 bottles.

HOUSING.

In 1951 24 single bedroomed flats for old people were erected. The 12 flats at the corner of Livingstone Road and Royal George Road were occupied during October and the remaining 12 in Clifton Road were occupied early in 1952.

In the selection of tenants for the flats it was possible to free three council houses and one flat, for re-letting to waiting applicants. Apart from this, no actual building has taken place to relieve the waiting list which has continued to grow in length by the addition of cases, all of which have an urgent housing need and an association with Burgess Hill.

Road and sewer works on the new site in St. Andrews Road were commenced in preparation for the building of further houses which will be erected in 1952, and further development of this site is planned to follow on immediately afterwards.

No further action has been possible with regard to the unfit houses in the district, owing to the impossibility of re-housing the occupants. The Council is still housing over 50 families in requisitioned property, which it is anticipated, will have to be restored to the owners before very much longer.

MOVABLE DWELLINGS.

In common with many other districts there has been of late a marked increase in the number of caravans being used as semi-permanent living quarters, chiefly by young couples who thus find a temporary solution of their housing problems. Some of these modern trailer caravans are excellently fitted internally and the owner/occupiers appear to be well satisfied with their conditions. No attempt has been made to concentrate the caravans on any one site, a policy of dispersal having been deemed preferable. Control is exercised by the granting of individual annual licences under the Public Health Act, 1936, conditions being attached to secure sanitary conditions, combined with control under the Town and Country Planning Act, 1947, planning permission being granted, in approved cases, for a limited period.

Although a good many licences are granted, many caravans do not remain long, and the number in use at any one time is usually round about 10.

FACTORIES.

1. INSPECTIONS FOR PURPOSES OF PROVISIONS AS TO HEALTH

Premises	No. on Register	Number of		
		Inspections	Written Notices	Occupiers prosecuted
(i) Factories in which sections 1,2,3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	4	6	-	-
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	10	7	1	-
(iii) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers premises)	-	-	-	-
Totals:	14	13	1	-

2. CASES IN WHICH DEFECTS WERE FOUND

Particulars	No. of cases in which defects were found				Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted
	Found	Remedied	Referred To H.M. Inspector	Referred By H.M. Inspector	
Want of cleanliness (S.1.)	1	1	-	-	-
Overcrowding (S.2)	-	-	-	-	-
Unreasonable temperature (S.3)	-	-	-	-	-
Inadequate ventilation (S.4)	-	-	-	-	-
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6)	-	-	-	-	-
Sanitary conveniences (S.7)					
(a) Insufficient	1	1	-	-	-
(b) Unsuitable or defective	1	1	-	1	-
(c) Not separate for sexes	-	-	-	-	-
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Outwork)	2	2	-	1	-
Totals:	5	5	-	2	-